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Letter dated 15 May 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Chad to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

With reference to the letter dated 11 May 2008 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan (S/2008/325), I should like to stress once again that Chad was in no way implicated in the attack on Omdurman on 10 May by the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) which, as all are aware, is a movement in Darfur struggling against the Government. The epicentre of the problem is therefore in Darfur, with repercussions spreading out to Chad and the subregion, bringing in its wake a massive presence of refugees and displaced persons, as well as insecurity and destabilization. In reality, Chad is a victim (see all our previous correspondence addressed to the Security Council from December 2005 to the present).

To further demonstrate our status as victim, I should like to convey to you in extenso the text issued today by the authorities of my country, following the virulent media campaign launched by the Sudanese authorities and media in Khartoum:

> Over the past five years, El Bashir has put together more than 20 groupings of mercenaries in his pay. The mission of these mercenaries is to destroy the Chadian nation, now being built under the leadership of President Idriss Deby Itno, and to bring mourning to Chadian families. The vehicles, weapons, documents and other war materiel seized in various conflicts carry Sudanese markings.
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> Whether these mercenary groups call themselves RDF, FUC, UFDD, RFC, UFDD-F, UDC or anything else, they are all one and the same. They are recruited, trained, led and maintained by the Khartoum regime using petro-dinars. Their orders are given by the Sudanese special services. On 19 and 20 March, it was the Sudanese director of special intelligence services, Salah Gosh himself, who ordered Mahamat Nouri to attack the positions of the Chadian defence and security forces.
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> A high-ranking Sudanese security officer, responsible for providing the mercenaries and the Janjaweed with cash, crossed the border a few weeks ago to express his dissatisfaction; nearly 2 billion FCFA were found in his suitcase.
>
> Last week, another Sudanese officer in possession of Chadian identity documents was apprehended by law-enforcement officials at Adré, after spying for his country for two months.

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All this evidence directly implicates the Sudanese authorities in the destabilization of Chad. There is no further doubt that the aggressor is the Sudan.

Moreover, not satisfied with the damage it has caused to Chad since December 2005, the Government of the Sudan has gone so far as to ransack the offices of the Chadian Embassy in Khartoum, in flagrant violation of international law and the principles of diplomacy regarding the inviolability of diplomatic missions and their staff. Such misconduct must be denounced and unequivocally condemned.

The attempt to support these accusations by the use of passages from a report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations (see ninth paragraph of the letter from the representative of the Sudan) amounts to a complete obfuscation, to which we had already responded by referring to Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations authorizing any sovereign State to engage in legitimate self-defence.

In any case, the litany of false accusations against Chad by its neighbour is without foundation. Chad has committed no aggression, nor will it commit aggression, notwithstanding all the threats made by the Sudanese side. It remains committed to the path of dialogue, within the framework of the contact group on the comprehensive implementation of the Dakar Agreement, with the objective of lasting peace and security on its borders with all its neighbours, including the Sudan.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mahamat Ali **Adoum**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative